

62 and proceeding to an exit site 56. After the introducer 50 protrudes outside the exit site 56, the second element 36 of the introducer 50 may be removed as shown in Figures 13a and 13b. A locking mechanism is formed by the grooves 44 and a cap 46. The cap 46 is removed from the blunt end 40 of the introducer 50, thereby releasing the lock between the first element 32 from the second element 36. The second element 36 of the introducer 50 may be removed.

As shown in Figure 14, the catheter 10 may be attached to the first element 32 of the introducer 50. The pointed end 100 of the catheter 10 may be placed in the circular cut 34 of the first element 32 of the introducer 50. The catheter 10 may be secured by placing the notch 106 of the catheter 10 at the right angle notch 42 of the first element 32. As a result, the catheter 10 and the first element 32 fit together, and the catheter 10 may be kept from slipping away from the introducer 50 while located in the subcutaneous tissue 62 of the body.

*A2
Cand*

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace Claim 15 with the following:

*Su
B2*

15. A method for introducing a catheter into a body of a patient wherein the body includes skin and a subcutaneous layer, the method comprising the steps of:

A3
providing a first part having a length defined between a pointed end and a flat end;

providing a second part having a length defined between the pointed end and the flat end wherein the first part and the second part define a cylindrical body and further wherein the second part is removable;